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Public Comments on Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities: Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program:=====

Title: Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities: Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program

FR Document Number: 2012-26553

Legacy Document ID:

RIN:

Publish Date: 10/29/2012 12:00:00 AM

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Comment: I am opposed to the proposed changes to the VRS reimbursement program as this will directly impact the future technology of Video Relay Service in this country. We should be applauding and rewarding companies like Sorenson who have invested millions of dollars to invent ways for the deaf to communicate in a hearing world. In just the past couple of years, they have provided VRS solutions for both PC and Mac computers, both iOS and Android mobile phones as well as for iPad Tablets. These new technologies have given FREEDOM to the deaf, who are now able to call anyone anytime anywhere. It has changed lives. To restrict this advancement in communication is a shame. Please reconsider limiting the funds given to VRS companies so that the technology can continue to grow and ensure functional equivalency with the deaf community. Thank you.

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